

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings, of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

1. (Currently amended) A clamping tool comprising a first element and a second element capable of relative displacement under the action of a drive mechanism, the clamping tool comprising a screw with a given pitch adapted to be driven in rotation about an axis in one direction or in the opposite direction under the action of a motor; a nut cooperating with the screw and adapted to be driven in translation in the direction of the axis of the screw, the nut being rigid in translation with the first element; a first guide section defining a linear guide parallel to the axis of the screw in order to lock the nut in rotation in a first phase of displacement of the nut; and a second guide section defining a helicoidal guide which extends along the axis of the screw and which second guide section has an inverted pitch relative to the pitch of the screw in order to allow rotation of the nut in the same direction of rotation as the screw in a second phase of displacement of the nut, the clamping tool further comprising a compensation system interposed between the first element and a mobile support rigid with the nut in order to reinitialize a position in which the nut leaves the first guide section to meet the second guide section, so that the first and second phases of displacement generated by the first and second guide sections remain synchronous.
2. (Previously presented) The clamping tool according to claim 1, wherein the compensation system comprises the mobile support in the form of a tubular element rigid with the nut and equipped with a male thread, as well as a hub with a female thread and cooperating with the male thread of the mobile support, the hub supporting the first element via a thrust ball bearing.
3. (Currently amended) The clamping tool according to claim 2, further comprising a positioning mechanism for selectively placing the hub in one of the three following positions:

- normal position ("position A") in which the hub is rigid in translation and in rotation with the mobile support;
- reinitialising position ("position B") in which the hub is rigid in translation and rotation with the first element; and
- intermediate position ("position C") in which the hub is free except for its connection to the thrust ball bearing and its threaded connection to the mobile support.

4. (Previously presented) The clamping tool according to claim 3, wherein the positioning mechanism comprises a nut plate rigid in rotation with the hub, freely displaceable in axial translation relative to the hub and with the female thread to cooperate with the male thread of the mobile support; a spring contrived to move the nut plate away from one end of the hub; solenoid plungers rigid with a mobile disc and traversing a plate forming part of the first element; and a winding carried by the plate and contrived, when supplied with electricity, to displace the nut plate towards the one end of the hub and the mobile disc rigid with the solenoid plungers towards the nut plate, counter to a spring-back element acting on the solenoid plungers.

5. (Previously presented) The clamping tool according to claim 3, taken in combination, wherein:

- in the normal position ("position A"), the winding is not supplied with electricity, so that the nut plate is apart from the one end of the hub, thus effecting locking of the hub on the mobile support;
- in the reinitialising position ("position B"), the winding is supplied with electricity, so that the nut plate comes closer into contact with the one end of the hub and the mobile disc comes closer into contact with the nut plate, thus effecting locking of the hub on the plate and, consequently, on the first element; and
- in the intermediate position ("position C"), the winding is supplied with electricity, so that the nut plate is brought closer into contact with the one end of the hub, whereas the mobile disc is brought closer to the nut plate without coming into contact therewith being

free except for its connection to the thrust ball bearing and its threaded connection to the mobile support.

6. (Previously presented) The clamping tool according to claim 1, further comprising a fixed support which carries the motor and the second element.

7. (Previously presented) The clamping tool according to claim 6, further comprising a column fixed to the fixed support and extending in a direction parallel to the axis of rotation of the screw in order to effect guiding in translation of the mobile support which carries the first element.

8. (Previously presented) The clamping tool according to claim 1, further comprising a hollow cylindrical support which has a cylindrical wall centered on the axis of rotation of the screw, and in which are cut two opposite slides each defining the first and second guide sections, and in which respectively two tracking elements are displaced carried by the nut.

9. (Previously presented) The clamping tool according to claim 1, wherein the clamping tool takes the form of soldering pliers, the first element and the second element forming an electrode and a counter-electrode, respectively.